

Small Boat Program – Division of Research and Innovation

Oregon State University, B308G Kerr Administration Building, Corvallis, Oregon 97331-2140 Email: boating.safety@oregonstate.edu; Website: https://research.oregonstate.edu/boating

Oregon State University Small Boat Program Motorboat Operator Skills Checkout

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Operator Name:	Date:	Date:		
Instructor Name:				
Performance Skill	Operator Qualification (Y/N)	Instructor Comments	Operator Initials	Instructor Initials
Trailer Backing (straight and curve)				
Boat Launch/Retrieval (hooking /unhooking)				
Docking/ Undocking (parallel, 45 and 90)				
Object Avoidance (Serpentine)				
Object Contact / Recovery				
Person Overboard Throw bag Throwable P.I.W. Recovery				
Circle Course / Close Quarter Maneuvering				
Live Boat: Diver/Snorkeler Deploy and Recovery (if applicable)				



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Performance Qualification Standards

TRAILER BACKING

Straight: To successfully complete this exercise, the candidate will negotiate a straight cone course with a tow vehicle and trailer or trailered boat.

Curve: To successfully complete this exercise, the candidate will negotiate a curved cone course with a vehicle and trailer or trailered boat and will do so by using forward and reverse as needed throughout the course. The candidate will also demonstrate backing down a real or simulated boat ramp.

BOAT LAUNCH AND RETRIEVAL

While working with a team of two or three, the candidate will prepare a boat for launch by completing a pre-launch safety inspection to ensure that all necessary equipment is on hand and the boat and trailer are ready for launch. While working with a team of two or three, each candidate will successfully launch and retrieve the boat demonstrating safe backing, launching, and retrieval practices. Candidate will demonstrate knowledge of safely hooking/unhooking of trailer as directed.

DOCKING

Dock the boat alternately on port and starboard sides in a space equal to no more than twice the boat's length bringing the boat to a complete and controlled stop within arm's reach of the dock and without touching the dock. Maneuver is complete when the boat touches the dock and/or is brought to a complete stop. Depart the dock from both the port and starboard side using reverse, forward, and spring line techniques as instructed. As conditions allow, demonstrate parallel, 45-degree and 90-degree docking approaches and understand their uses based on environmental conditions.

OBJECT CONTACT / RECOVERY

From downwind or down current (whichever is prevailing), approach an object in the water (simulating a person) bring the boat to a complete, controlled stop within boat hook reach of the object, and retrieve or simulate retrieval of the object. The maneuver is complete when the object is contacted with boat hook and/or the boat is brought to a stop within boat hook reach. Approaches should be made from the bow, starboard side, and port side.

CLOSE QUARTER MANEUVERING

Turn the boat 180 degrees in a space defined by buoys without touching the buoys. Maneuver may also be done in a similarly sized space (marina slips, launch area, etc.). Maneuver is successful when the boat exits through the entry gate (180-degree turn) or makes 180 deg. turn in the designated confined space.

OBJECT AVOIDANCE and AT-SPEED MANEUVERS

Serpentine: While working under the close supervision of an instructor, the candidate will successfully bring the boat on plane and negotiate a serpentine buoy course or turns/course changes as directed, while demonstrating proper speed and safe operation.

Object Avoidance: While working under close supervision of an instructor, candidate will bring the boat to a planing speed and on command of the instructor, the candidate will turn either right or left to avoid a buoy (simulating a person or object in the water). After making the avoidance maneuver, the candidate will bring the boat to a controlled stop.

PERSON OVERBOARD

To successfully complete the evaluation, candidate will safely participate in the rescue of a person or rescue mannequin from the water using a motorboat and appropriate equipment. Safe operation of the boat, appropriate choice of technique and equipment according to scenario provided by the instructor, and effective rescue utilizing assistants will be evaluated.